

Listing of the Claims:

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

- 1 1 (Currently Amended). A computer implemented method for the formation of
- 2 dynamic alliances between vendors with complementary capabilities to jointly
- 3 pursue specific market opportunities comprising the steps of:
- 4 maintaining a database storing registered vendor capabilities;
- 5 receiving a request for proposal from a customer;
- 6 translating the request for proposal into demanded capabilities;
- 7 accessing said database and matching comparing the demanded
- 8 capabilities with registered vendor capabilities;
- 9 generating a plurality of sets of identifying vendors which meet whose
- 10 capabilities match with the demanded capabilities in a plurality of sets of
- 11 vendors;
- 12 accepting from identifying registered vendors not having all demanded
- 13 whose capabilities do not match with the demanded capabilities;
- 14 a coalition of vendors which meet demanded capabilities, said
- 15 coalition of vendors being formed through creation of sub-requests by
- 16 dividing the request for proposal into a plurality of sub-requests to be
- 17 responded to by other identified vendors whose capabilities do not match with
- 18 the demanded capabilities with no restriction on a number of levels of such
- 19 divisions, wherein each of the plurality of sub-requests correspond to a
- 20 corresponding demanded capability;
- 21 identifying vendors having vendor capabilities corresponding to the
- 22 plurality of sub-requests by comparing the vendor capabilities from a database
- 23 to the demanded capabilities corresponding to the plurality of sub-requests;
- 24 identifying coalitions of vendors which collectively meet demanded
- 25 capabilities using the identified vendors;

26 ~~thereby~~ creating a request for proposal tree having coalition
27 alternatives at each level of the request for proposal tree based upon the
28 identified vendors in said coalition alternatives;
29 selecting a preferred coalition from the coalition alternates at each
30 level of the request for proposal tree to respond to the request for proposal;
31 and
32 generating a proposal corresponding to the request for proposal by
33 aggregating coalitions at all levels in the request for proposal tree in
34 combination with the plurality of sets of vendors to respond to the request for
35 proposal.

2 (Canceled).

3 (Canceled).

1 4 (Currently Amended). A system for the formation of dynamic alliances
2 between vendors with complementary capabilities to jointly pursue specific
3 market opportunities comprising:
4 means for receiving a request for proposal from a customer;
5 means for translating the request for proposal into demanded
6 capabilities;
7 a database storing registered vendor capabilities;
8 means for accessing said database and ~~matching comparing~~ demanded
9 capabilities with registered vendor capabilities and identifying to generate a
10 plurality of sets of vendors ~~which meet the~~ whose capabilities match
11 demanded capabilities, said means further identifying vendors whose
12 capabilities do not match with the demanded capabilities;
13 14 demanded capabilities a coalition of vendors which meet demanded

15 ~~capabilities, said coalition of vendors being formed through creation of sub-~~
16 ~~requests by~~ dividing the request for proposal into a plurality of sub-requests to
17 be responded to by ~~other the identified~~ vendors whose capabilities do not
18 match with the demanded capabilities with no restriction on a number of
19 levels of such divisions, wherein each of the plurality of sub-requests
20 correspond to a corresponding demanded capability;
21 said means for accessing and comparing further identifying vendor
22 capabilities corresponding to the plurality of sub-requests by comparing the
23 vendor capabilities from a data base to the demanded capabilities
24 corresponding to the plurality of sub-requests and identifying coalitions of
25 vendors which collectively meet demanded capabilities using the identified
26 vendors;
27 thereby means for creating a request for proposal tree having coalition
28 alternatives at each level of the request for proposal tree based upon the
29 identified vendors in said coalition alternatives;
30 means for selecting a preferred coalition from the coalition alternates
31 alternatives at each level of the request for proposal tree to respond to the
32 request for proposal at that level; and
33 means for generating a proposal corresponding to the request for
34 proposal by for aggregating coalitions at all levels in the request for proposal
35 tree in combination with the plurality of sets of vendors to respond to the
36 request for proposal.

5 (Canceled).

1 6 (Previously Presented). The system recited in claim 4, further comprising
2 means for establishing access control privileges to coalition members of a
3 coalition, the access control privileges applying to sharing of common
4 resources and services available to the coalition.

1 7 (Previously Presented). The system recited in claim 4, wherein the means for
2 selecting selects members from vendors in the database and from coalitions
3 formed by vendors in the database with other vendors not in the database.

1 8 (Previously Presented). The system recited in claim 4, further comprising
2 means for providing common services to members of a coalition.

1 9 (Previously Presented). The method recited in claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of establishing access control privileges to coalition members of a
3 coalition, the access control privileges applying to sharing of common
4 resources and services available to the coalition.

1 10 (Previously Presented). The method recited in claim 1, wherein the step of
2 selecting selects members from vendors in a database and from coalitions
3 formed by vendors in the database with other vendors not in the database.

1 11 (Previously Presented). The method recited in claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of providing common services to members of a coalition.